

[0031] What is claimed is:

1. A method of SegmentDescriptor implementation in ISO/IEC 14496-5 comprising:
 - defining a SegmentDescriptor class that derives from BaseDescriptor;
 - adding an array of SegmentDescriptor objects to ObjectDescriptor; and
 - adding an object method to StreamConsumer that activates a Fetch method of MediaStream, checks time stamps of fetched media units and discards all media units that are not in a range of a specified segment.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - replacing one or more calls to GetStream->Fetch in source code of a Renderer module with calls to said object method.
3. A method of MediaSensor implementation in ISO/IEC 14496-5 comprising:
 - defining a MediaSensor class that derives from StreamConsumer;
 - adding an object method to StreamConsumer that activates a Fetch method of MediaStream, checks time stamps of fetched media units and discards all media units that are not in a range of a specified segment;
 - adding a parameter to said object method and to said Fetch method so that when said parameter has a predefined value, calls to said object method and to said Fetch method return normal results but do not affect the availability of media units in a buffer of a MediaStream object.
4. The method of claim 3, further comprising:
 - adding an object method to StreamConsumer that given a time stamp determines which segment of a stream whose media units are stored in said buffer is now playing.
5. An implementation of SegmentDescriptor in a Core module of ISO/IEC 14496-5 that requires only a global find-and-replace in source code of a Renderer module of ISO/IEC 14496-5 and recompilation of said source code.